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LETTER DATED 3 APRIL 1997 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF  
THE SUDAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF  
THE SECURITY COUNCIL

Upon instructions from my Government, I wish to transmit herewith a letter from H.E. Ali Osman Mohamed Taha, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Sudan concerning the Eritrean aggression against Sudanese territories in the Red Sea State, on the country's eastern borders, addressed to the Security Council.

I would like to request you to bring the contents of this urgent letter to the attention of the members of the Security Council so that they may make appropriate measures.

I would also request that the present letter and its annex be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Hamid Ali ELTINAY  
Deputy Permanent Representative



Annex

[Original: Arabic]

Letter dated 1 April 1997 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs  
of the Sudan addressed to the President of the Security Council

1. As you are aware, we have kept the Security Council informed about the continuing policy of aggression against the Sudan that the Eritrean regime (Eritrean People's Liberation Front) is pursuing. I regret to inform you and the other members of the Council that Eritrea has committed further acts of aggression against the territory of the Sudan, targeting a number of areas in the eastern part of the country. The Eritrean forces, accompanied by some rebel elements, used T-55 tanks, armoured vehicles, artillery of various calibres, rocket launchers, and anti-aircraft weapons. Details of Eritrea's latest acts of aggression are as follows:

(a) In the morning of 26 March 1997, the Garora and Eterebe areas in eastern Sudan were subjected to an act of rank aggression launched from within Eritrean territory;

(b) On 27 March 1997, the Eritrean forces launched an attack against Agitay station in eastern Sudan, following this up with actions against points located on the Sudanese coast, including Kalfia and Agig. The Eritreans declared that they intended to occupy Toker, one of the major cities in eastern Sudan, and to cut the main road between Port Sudan and Khartoum.

2. These fresh acts of Eritrean aggression, like their predecessors, are part of the campaign which the Eritrean regime daily proclaims it is conducting against the Sudan and which jeopardizes not only the security of the Sudan itself but the stability of the region.

3. Having brought to your attention the details of the aggression perpetrated by the Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF) regime against the Sudan, I should like to request that the Security Council take the necessary measures to put an end to it, having regard to the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the Council's responsibility for maintaining international peace and security.

4. In conclusion, I should like to state that the Sudan reserves in full its right to defend its sovereignty, the safety of its citizens and its territorial integrity.

I should be grateful if you would inform the other Council members of this letter and have it circulated as an official document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Ali Osman Mohamed TAHA  
Minister for Foreign Affairs

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